

TABLE OF CONTENTS

RIDGES BASIN PRE-CONSTRUCTION FACILITIES RELOCATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

	<u>Page</u>
1 PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION	1-1
1.1 INTRODUCTION	1-1
1.2 PROJECT BACKGROUND	1-1
1.2.1 The Animas-La Plata Project	1-1
1.2.2 Animas-La Plata Project NEPA Compliance	1-3
1.2.3 Related NEPA Compliance Activities	1-3
1.2.4 Other Compliance Activities	1-5
1.3 PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED	1-7
2 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES	2-1
2.1 PROPOSED ACTION	2-1
2.1.1 New Pipeline Construction Proposed	2-1
2.1.2 New Meter Station	2-2
2.1.3 Deposition of Existing Pipeline	2-2
2.1.4 Pipeline Products Conversion and Pump Plant	2-2
2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	2-7
2.3 ROUTING ALTERNATIVES	2-7
2.3.1 Northern Route	2-7
2.3.2 Southern Route	2-8
2.4 SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATING PROCEDURES	2-9
2.4.1 Carbon Mountain Horizontal Directional Drill	2-10
2.4.2 Construction Access, Extra Work Space, and Off Right-of-Way Disposal Area	2-10
2.5 LAND REQUIREMENTS	2-13
2.5.1 Northern Route	2-13
2.5.2 Southern Route	2-14
3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES	3-1
3.1 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	3-1
3.1.1 Air Quality	3-1
3.1.2 Geology and Soils	3-1
3.1.3 Water Resources and Water Quality	3-4
3.1.4 Noise	3-6
3.2 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	3-6
3.2.1 Aquatic Resources	3-7
3.2.2 Wetlands	3-7
3.2.3 Vegetation	3-7
3.2.4 Wildlife	3-9
3.2.5 Endangered and Threatened Species	3-12
3.3 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	3-14
3.3.1 Cultural Resources	3-14
3.3.2 Land Use	3-17
3.3.3 Transportation	3-19

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

RIDGES BASIN PRE-CONSTRUCTION FACILITIES RELOCATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

	<u>Page</u>
3.3.4 Visual Resources.....	3-19
3.3.5 Recreation	3-21
3.3.6 Socioeconomics	3-22
4 OTHER IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS	4-1
4.1 RELATED ACTIONS	4-1
4.1.1 Relocation of County Road 211.....	4-1
4.1.2 Relocation of Tri-State Electric Transmission Line	4-4
4.1.3 Relocation of the Greeley Pipeline	4-5
4.2 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS.....	4-6
4.3 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND INDIAN TRUST ASSETS.....	4-6
5 RECOMMENDED ACTION AND LIST OF COMMITMENTS	5-1
5.1 RECOMMENDED ROUTE.....	5-1
5.1.1 Northern Route	5-1
5.1.2 Southern Route	5-2
5.2 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS	5-2
6 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION	6-1
6.1 PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING	6-1
6.2 WRITTEN COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	6-1
6.3 LA PLATA COUNTY CR 211 LOCATION STUDY AND PUBLIC MEETING.....	6-1
6.4 NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION	6-2
6.5 FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.....	6-2
6.6 FERC COOPERATIVE AGENCY	6-3
7 LIST OF PREPARERS.....	7-1
8 REFERENCES	8-1
9 DISTRIBUTION LIST	9-1
ATTACHMENTS	
A PETROLEUM PRODUCTS SPILL ANALYSIS	A-1
B DRAFT BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT	B-1
C COMMENT LETTERS ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT	C-1

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

RIDGES BASIN PRE-CONSTRUCTION FACILITIES RELOCATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

	<u>Page</u>
LIST OF TABLES	
1-1	Environmental Permits and Actions Related To Pipeline Relocations
2-1	Land Requirements for Northwest and MAPCO Pipeline Facilities
3-1	Composition of Vegetative Cover Types Along Pipeline Relocation.....
3-2	Vegetation Impacts Resulting from Construction of the Pipeline Relocation Project
3-3	Potentially Occurring Wildlife Species Within Vegetation Cover Types.....
3-4	Summary of Sites Within Pipeline Relocation Project APE – Northern Route Alternative
5-1	Comparison of Pipeline Routes Considered
	5-2
LIST OF FIGURES	
1-1	General Animas-La Plata Project Area
1-2	Ridges Basin Features and Facilities to be Relocated
2-1	Typical Right-Of-Way Cross Sections.....
2-2	Pipeline Construction Sequence
2-3	Northern and Southern Pipeline Route Alternatives
2-4	Carbon Mountain Directional Drilling Details.....
	2-11
<u>ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS</u>	
	AA-1